



### SRC CALENDAR

#### Monday, Feb. 20

- **8:30 a.m. Government Ops**, SHB 2815, clarifying the "best available science" requirements to protect critical areas. SHR 2
- **8:30 a.m. Labor, Commerce**. E2SHB 2353 - childcare collective bargaining bill. SHR 4
- **11:00 a.m. Joint House-Senate session**
- **1 p.m. Senate session**
- **3:30 p.m. Health & Long Term Care**, SHB 2376 Prohibiting DSHS from imposing premiums on low-income children and 2SHB 2292, addressing health care liability reform. SHR 4
- **3:30 p.m. K-12**, E3SHB 1484 - cost-of-living salary supplements for district school employees. SHR1

#### Tuesday, Feb. 21

- **12:00 p.m. ALEC luncheon** at the mansion behind Pritchard
- **3:30 p.m. Water, Energy & Enviro**, 3SHB 1458 - concerning the management of on-site sewage disposal systems in marine areas. SHR 4

#### Wednesday, Feb. 22

- **8:00 a.m. Health & Long Term Care**, bills concerning health care provider contacts. SHR 4
- **8:00 a.m. Natural Resources**, SHB 3102 - concerning geoduck harvesting. SHR 2
- **10:00 a.m. Senate session and caucus**
- **3:30 p.m. Water, Energy & Enviro**, E2SHB 2349 providing new renewable energy standards and E3SHB 2939 establishing the "energy freedom" program. SHR 4

#### Thursday, Feb. 23

- **8:00 a.m. Government Ops**, 3SHB 1226 - adjusting campaign contribution limits and ESHB 2594 assistance to non-English speaking voters. SHR 2
- **3:30 p.m. Health & Long Term Care**, HB 2398 - expanding participation in state purchased health care programs. SHR 4

#### Friday, Feb. 24

- **10:00 a.m. Senate session and caucus**

### COMMITMENT TO WASHINGTON

**Eyes will turn to supplemental budget negotiations** in the weeks ahead. Looming large will be the **Senate's killing of Sen. Joe Zarelli's proposed constitutional amendment** that would set aside 1% of the state's general fund budget into a "rainy day" account. Despite support from leading economists, the Gates Tax Commission, newspaper editorialists, the general public and Senate Democrat leadership, the proposal was not brought up for a vote before a February 14<sup>th</sup> deadline.

**"Apparently, that was all talk and no walk,"** Zarelli said.

Meanwhile, the Senate supplemental budget, passed today, will **boost spending 17.3% higher than last biennium**.

**The good news was passage of a promising water bill** thought dead just a week ago. The bill, if funded as promised, creates a dedicated trust fund of more than \$200 million for new water storage facilities and conservation projects.

**"Fortunately, DOE and the governor came around to our point of view,"** Sen. Bob Morton said. Gov. Gregoire signed the bill into law Thursday.

### SRC IN THE NEWS

**Upon Senate approval of the landmark water bill:** "I still have a little trepidation," **Sen. Joyce Mulliken**, R-Moses Lake, said. 'We've had promises made, but for years we've had promises not kept.'" (*Yakima Herald Republic*, 2-15-06)

**On the Senate gutting of the 2003 unemployment insurance reform program** by passing SSB 6885: "We were promised a bipartisan collaborative approach to this issue" said **Sen. Linda Evans Parlette**, R-Wenatchee. 'This is not a compromise bill. Negotiations have not even begun.' 'Shame on the Senate,' added **Sen. Jim Honeyford**, R-Sunnyside." (*Seattle P-I*, 2-13-06)

**On Senate approval of the expansion of WSU Tri-Cities** into a four-year campus: "**Sen. Jerome Delvin**, R-Richland, said he doesn't foresee any problems, but that now is no time to pop open the bubbly. 'Not until the governor signs it,' Delvin said. 'Then we'll celebrate.'" (*Tri-City Herald*, 2-15-06)

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